

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00323 211645Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
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NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W
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O 211615Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6799
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 323

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: WA, SF, UN, PORG
SUBJ: NAMIBIA - MEETING OF CAPE TOWN FIVE

1. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE BRIEFLY DISCUSSED TODAY, FEB 21,
THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON NAMIBIA. I REPORTED ON
CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE EARLIER IN THE DAY IN WHICH
FOURIE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING DIALOGUE GOING
AND NOT ALLOWING BREAKDOWN. FOURIE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
REACTION OF FIVE TO HIS OBSERVATIONS (CAPE TOWN 315) ON
PROPOSAL ELABORATION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING THIS WEEK. I
ALSO INFORMED GROUP ABOUT HIS REMARKS CONCERNING PIK BOTHA'S
TRIP TO WINDHOEK, I.E.:
--BOTHA IS LEAVING TODAY AND RETURNING ON THURSDAY
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IN ORDER TO BE ON HAND FOR POSSIBLE NAMIBIA DEBATE
IN PARLIAMENT ON FRIDAY.
--PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO CONFER WITH JUDGE STEYN ON
WESTERN FIVE PROPOSALS AND DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK.
(IT WAS NOT BOTHA'S PLAN TO CONFER WITH INDIVIDUAL
GROUPS).
FINALLY, I MENTIONED THAT FOURIE HAD RAISED CAPTURE A FEW

DAYS AGO BY SWAPO FORCES OF A YOUNG SADF SOLDIER. FOURIE SAID ATMOSPHERE FOR NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY IMPROVED IF THIS SOLDIER WERE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO HIS BASE UNHARMED. (NO PUBLICITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THIS CAPTURE SO INFORMATION SHOULD BE PROTECTED).

2. GROUP NEXT TURNED TO QUESTION OF BRIEFING OF THE OPPOSITION AS PROPOSED BY THE CONTACT GROUP (USUN 0591 AND STATE 043989). THE FRENCH, CANADIANS AND GERMANS HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ON SUCH BRIEFING. PENDING AUTHORIZATION BY THOSE CAPITALS, WE AGREED THE BRIEFING SHOULD BE CONDUCTED AS INFORMALLY AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY IN AN EMBASSY RESIDENCE. TWO MEMBERS OF CAPE TOWN FIVE WOULD MEET WITH THE LEADER AND FOREIGN POLICY SPOKESMAN OF THE PFP AND TWO OTHERS WOULD DO THE SAME WITH THE NRP. IT WAS CONSIDERED UNWISE TO INCLUDE THREE-MEMBER SAP WHICH IS SO CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE GOVT. WHILE A FULL-FLEDGED DEBATE ON NAMIBIA WILL APPARENTLY NOT BE HELD UNTIL NEXT WEEK, WE WILL AIM AT HOLDING THE BRIEFINGS PRIOR TO FRIDAY, FEB 24, SINCE THE SUBJECT MAY COME UP IN A GENERAL DEBATE SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY.

BOWDLER

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